

As an emergency room physician, I am aware that when an individual is severely injured by gunshots, every second is vital to save his or her life. Mr. McDonald remained calmed and focused throughout the operation, and his leadership was essential in saving Deputy Solis's life. His courage and agility of mind is commendable.

Throughout his two years working with the Riverside County Fire Department, Mr. McDonald has demonstrated a strong commitment to public safety, earning the respect and admiration of his colleagues. Before becoming a firefighter, Mr. McDonald served our community as a paramedic since 2000. Mr. McDonald was recently recognized by the City of Coachella for his outstanding performance assisting Deputy Solis.

On behalf of California's 36th Congressional District, I am grateful for Firefighter and Paramedic James McDonald and commend his valuable contributions and arduous work strengthening our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM ERIC HERR, COLONEL, USAF (RETIRED)

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to use this time to recognize my constituent and friend, Mr. William Eric Herr for over 40 years of federal service beginning as a Reserve Officer Training Corps cadet in 1977 and culminating on January 14, 2018 with his retirement from federal civil service.

Mr. Herr received his engineering degree from the University of Colorado and was commissioned in 1981. He excelled as an Air Force pilot with most of his flight time in the F-15 Eagle, single-seat, air superiority fighter. Mr. Herr reached the pinnacle of his tactical training by graduating from the United States Air Force Fighter Weapons Instructor Course; as in his other flying training courses, he received top academic honors and was recognized as a Distinguished Graduate. He served 26 years in the Air Force including command, combat time over Iraq, duty on The Joint Staff, and senior positions on The Air Staff and the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Staff.

Today, Mr. Herr serves as the Low Observable/Counter Low Observable (LO/CLO) Systems Program Director in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics. He is responsible for managing the Department of Defense process for focusing LO/CLO technology development and reviewing requests for the release of LO/CLO technologies to U.S. allies and foreign partners.

Mr. Herr has been an active and involved citizen of Stafford County, Virginia. He served five years on the county's Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission including multiple terms as chairman and vice-chairman. An active member of the Stafford County Branch, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Mr. Herr currently serves on their executive board and as their political outreach chair. He has been a frequent speaker at meetings of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors and has been engaged at all levels of his local government and across the First Congressional District.

Mr. Herr and his wife Lisa will be moving to Texas after his retirement where he will continue to support our Nation's defense in a leadership role in the private sector. Both he and Lisa will enjoy being closer to family but will never give up their ties to the Old Dominion.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Mr. Herr's service to Stafford County, to the Commonwealth of Virginia, and to the United States of America, and wish him and his wife the best in their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 18, 2017 I missed the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "NO" on Motion to Fix the Convening Times, and "YES" on H.R. 4375, STEM Research and Education Effectiveness and Transparency Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 687.

HONORING DEPUTY LOPEZ ON BEING NAMED OFFICER OF THE YEAR FOR HER ALTRUISM AND HEROISM

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize an outstanding member of my Congressional district, Riverside County Sheriff's Deputy Alicia Lopez. Because of her extraordinary altruism, she was recently named Officer of the Year by the Palm Desert Police Department. Her story is an inspiration and today, I want to recognize her exceptional dedication of service and sacrifice.

Deputy Lopez and Community Service Officer Angelina Castleberry became close friends when they were both working at the Palm Desert Police Department. In 2014, Ms. Castleberry gave birth to beautiful twins. Unfortunately, one of them was born with a kidney deficiency. For three and a half years, little Matthew has been subject to multiple dialysis treatments, 14 surgeries, and weekly visits to the Loma Linda University Kidney Center.

Throughout the procedures, doctors advised Ms. Castleberry that Matthew may not survive for too long without a kidney transplant. When Deputy Lopez learned about Matthew's troubles, she decided to participate in a blood drive to see if she could be a match. In March 2017, the results indicated that she was in-

deed a match. Without any hesitation, Deputy Lopez decided to donate her kidney to save the life of little Matthew.

When Deputy Lopez enthusiastically shared the great news with Ms. Castleberry, she was overcome with tears of joy. On July 31, 2017, Deputy Lopez donated her left kidney to little Matthew, and the transplant surgery was successful. Her selfless generosity saved Matthew's life, who is now recovering well with his new kidney.

Deputy Lopez has dedicated her life to serving the residents of the Coachella Valley. Her valuable contributions and arduous work strengthening our community are inspiring. As exemplified in this story, she goes above and beyond the call of duty.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of California's 36th Congressional District, I truly commend Deputy Lopez for her heroism and compassionate sacrifice. Her willingness to help little Matthew is an inspiration to us all. Her years of service and contributions to our community are an example of excellence and dedication that all should seek to emulate.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for voting on Monday, December 18. Had I been present and voting, I would have voted:

Nay on Roll Call No. 685 (On Motion to Fix the Convening Time);

Aye on Roll Call No. 686 (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 4375, STEM Research and Education Effectiveness and Transparency Act, as amended); and

Aye on Roll Call Vote No. 687 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 3979, Keep America's Refugees Operational Act).

IN RECOGNITION OF BETH CHAPPELL FOR HER SERVICE AS DETROIT ECONOMIC CLUB PRESIDENT AND CEO

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Beth Chappell for her distinguished leadership as the Detroit Economic Club's President and CEO as she leaves to begin her next chapter. She has been an effective leader and advocate for Michigan's businesses and entrepreneurs.

Born and raised in Michigan, Mrs. Chappell attended Michigan State University's Broad College of Business where she received her bachelor's degree in Marketing before entering the workforce. She spent 16 years at AT&T Corporation, where she served as Vice President of Global Services and cultivated relationships with a worldwide clientele. Mrs. Chappell also served as Executive Vice President of Compuware Corporation and led the Chappell Group before being named President and CEO of the Detroit Economic Club (DEC).